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MAY EGG PRODUCTION On:

UP 9 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

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Austin . . . May egg production in Texas totaled 416 million eggs, up 9 percent from May 2005, but down slightly from April 2006, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.

The number of layers during May averaged 18.4 million, up 7 percent from last year but down 3 percent from April 2006. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2,265 eggs, up 2 percent from last year and up 3 percent from last month.

Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks in May totaled 55.2 million, down 5 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 7.63 billion eggs during May 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.52 billion table eggs, 1.04 billion broiler-type hatching eggs and 70 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 345 million during May 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,213 eggs, down slightly from May 2005.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 40.3 million, up 4 percent from May 2005. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 811 million, was down 2 percent from May of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 7.53 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 2006, down 3 percent from May 2005.